

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 7-12 are pending.

It is noted with appreciation that claims 7, 8/7, 9/8/7, 10/8/7, 11/7, and 12/7 are allowed.

The art rejections of claims 1-4, 13, 14, 15/13, 15/14, 20/13, 20/14, 21, 22, 23/21, and 23/22 are strenuously traversed. However, in order to expedite prosecution of the instant application to its conclusion, Applicant has canceled the rejected claims without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant recognizes its right to pursue these and other claims in a continuation application or a divisional application during the pendency of the instant application.

The multiple dependent claims have been amended according to the allowable claims. A misspelling in claim 12 has been corrected.

Respectfully submitted,

/George B.F. Yee/

George B. F. Yee
Reg. No. 37,478

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
GBFY
61051456 v1